

# APPARATUS, SYSTEM, AND METHOD FOR ENGAGING TOES IN FOOTWEAR

## ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Apparatuses, a system, and a method for engaging a wearer's toes within an interior  
5 of a footwear item are provided. A panel is configured to extend at least partially across a  
toebox of the interior of the footwear item. An attachment mechanism is configured to  
position the panel in the interior of the footwear item so that the panel is positioned inside the  
toebox to engage an edge of at least one of the wearer's toes. The panel includes a flexible or  
stretchable material such as neoprene. The attachment mechanism includes at least one of  
10 stitching, adhesive bonding, and thermal welding. The attachment mechanism joins the  
panel to the interior of the footwear item at a plurality of points along at least one of a lower  
edge of the panel and side edges of the panel, such as by joining the panel to an insole.

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